



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, March 4, 2002

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CHAFEE TOURS PAWTUCKET POLICE STATION
***Gets first hand look at laptop computers in police cruisers
obtained with \$200,000 federal grant***

Pawtucket, RI – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee today toured the Pawtucket Police Department's Computer Command Center where he got a first hand look at how computers have been used to upgrade the efficiency of law enforcement operations.

Senator Chafee was instrumental in securing a \$200,000 COPS Technology Grant Award in the Fiscal Year 2001 Justice Department Appropriations bill for Pawtucket's computer needs. The funding was used to install new laptop computers in nine police vehicles.

On March 10, 2000, Chafee wrote to Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH), then Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee, which proposes funding levels for specific Justice Department programs, to request the inclusion of funding for Pawtucket.

In his letter, Chafee noted "the laptops would increase the efficiency and enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement officers while they are on patrol. Of course, doing so would make the neighborhoods and communities in Pawtucket safer for all residents."

In June 2000, Chafee visited the Pawtucket Police Department's Computer Command Center and witnessed the installation of the first laptop computer in a police cruiser. He was invited back today by Commander Douglas W. Clary so that members of the police force could express their gratitude for his efforts to secure the additional funds needed to provide all the officers with the tools necessary to upgrade the technology and safety of the department's law enforcement officers.

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